



293/029 Cont. 3

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Todd Allen Berg et al.
Application No. : 10/659,951 Confirmation No.: 5856
Filed : September 10, 2003
For : VESSEL CUTTING DEVICES
Group Art Unit : 3731

New York, New York 10020
March 9, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement in the above-identified patent application. This Statement is submitted:

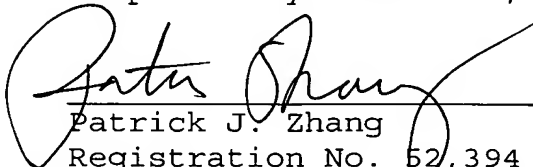
- ☐ within three months of the application filing date;
- ☒ more than three months from the application filing date but before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, submission of this Statement requires no fee. However, if for any reason a fee is due, the Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees required in connection with this

Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account

No. 06-1075. A duplicate copy of this letter is transmitted herewith.

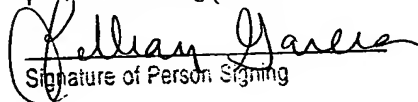
Respectfully submitted,



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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97, applicants hereby make the following documents of record in the above-identified patent application:

U.S. Patent Documents

*Van der Gaast	3,577,979	05/11/71
Matar	3,837,345	09/24/74
*Kvavle et al.	4,007,732	02/15/77
Goosen	4,018,228	04/19/77
Blake, III	5,192,294	03/09/93
*Kornberg et al.	5,353,804	10/11/94
Milo	5,403,338	04/04/95
*Topel et al.	5,488,958	02/06/96
*Kim	5,676,670	10/14/97

U.S. Patent Documents Cont'd.

*Popov et al.	5,702,412	12/30/97
Gentelia et al.	5,824,002	10/20/98
*Makower	5,830,222	11/03/98
*Berg et al.	5,972,017	10/26/99
*Goldsteen et al.	5,976,178	11/02/99
*Bachinski	6,001,124	12/14/99
*Dakov	6,030,392	02/29/00
*Bachinski et al.	6,036,702	03/14/00
*Berg et al.	6,068,654	05/30/00
*Berg et al.	6,074,416	06/13/00
*Sullivan et al.	6,120,432	09/19/00
*Dakov	6,254,618	07/03/01
*Dakov	2001/0039425 A1	11/08/01

Foreign Patent Documents

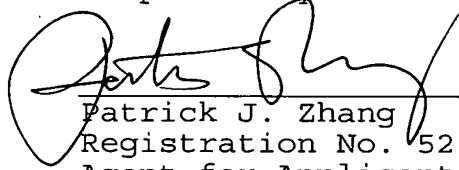
*EPO	EP 0 807 412 A1	11/19/97
*PCT	WO 97/13463	04/17/97
*PCT	WO 98/55027	12/10/98

The aforementioned references are listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 (submitted in duplicate). The references marked by an asterisk were either cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in Application No. 09/850,021, filed May 7, 2001, or Application No. 09/014,759, filed January 18, 1998 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,416,527) from which the present application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Accordingly, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), no copies of these references accompany this Information Disclosure Statement. Copies of the remaining references are enclosed herewith.

It is respectfully requested that these documents be (1) fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during examination of this application; and (2) printed on any patent which may issue on this application. Applicants request that a copy of Form PTO-1449, as considered and initialed by the Examiner, be returned with the next communication.

Consideration of the foregoing in relation to this patent application is respectfully requested.

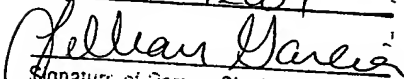
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FORM PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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STATEMENT BY APPLICANTS

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	3,577,979	05/11/71	Van der Gasst	128	2	
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	4,007,732	02/15/77	Kvavle et al.	600	567	
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	6,036,702	03/14/00	Bachinski et al.	606	153	
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	6,074,416	06/13/00	Berg et al.	623	1	
	6,120,432	09/19/00	Sullivan et al.	600	36	
	6,254,618	07/03/01	Dakov	606	153	
	2001/0039425 A1	11/08/01	Dakov	606	153	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	EP 0 807 412	11/19/97	EPO	A61B	17/32		
	WO 97/13463	04/17/97	PCT	A61B	17/00		
	WO 98/55027	12/10/98	PCT	A61B	17/00		

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicants.

FORM PTO-1449

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